



10-29-03

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PTO/SB/21 (05-03)

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/726,769	
	Filing Date	11/29/2000	
	First Named Inventor	FURMAN, et al.	
	Art Unit	1773	
	Examiner Name	Hoa T. Le	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	34	Attorney Docket Number	SWRI-2749A

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Signature	<i>Paula Morris</i>
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Transmittal form PTO/SB/21 [1 page], Response to Third Office Action [32 pages] and return receipt postcard.

Applicant:	<u>FURMAN, et al.</u>	Group Art Unit:	<u>1773</u>
Serial No.:	<u>09/726,769</u>	Examiner:	<u>Hoa T. Le</u>
Filing Date:	<u>11/29/2000</u>	Atty. Docket No.:	<u>SWRI-2749A</u>
Title:	<u>Methods of Functionalizing and Functionalized Metal Oxide Particles and Mechanically Strong and Transparent or Translucent composites Made Using Zirconium Oxide Nanoparticles</u>		



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Furman et al.

Serial No.: 09/726,769

Filed: November 29, 2000

For: **Methods of Functionalizing and Functionalized Metal Oxide Particles and Mechanically Strong and Transparent or Translucent Composites Made Using Zirconium Oxide Nanoparticles**

§ Group Art Unit: 1773
§
§ Examiner: Hoa T. Le
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§ Atty. Docket: SwRI-2749A
§

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RESPONSE TO THIRD OFFICE ACTION

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This paper is filed in response to the third office action mailed October 3, 2003.

The examiner is under a duty to conduct business with Applicant with decorum and courtesy. 37 C.F.R. 1.3. Applicant considers the third office action in this case a violation of this rule, and has brought the offensive portions to the third office action, mailed October 3, 2003, to the attention of the examiner's supervisor. Applicant respectfully requests that the examiner comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.3 and conduct business with Applicant with decorum and courtesy.

The examiner misunderstood Applicant's intent in designating certain claims as "previously canceled." Applicant was not attempting to reinstate these claims. Applicant merely intended to indicate that those claims had been "previously canceled." The following claim list uses the "Sample Format for Revised Amendment Practice" provided by the U.S. Patent Office, which was posted June 30, 2003. Applicant was not aware of the "Sample Format" when the previous response was filed on July 2, 2003.